

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:)	Group Art Unit: 1745
)	
CLARK, David L.)	Examiner: Yuan, Dah Wei D.
)	
Serial No.: 10/731,698)	
)	
Filed: December 9, 2003)	<u>RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION</u>
)	<u>REQUIREMENT AND SPECIES</u>
Confirmation No.: 3272)	<u>ELECTION REQUIREMENT</u>
)	
Atty. File No.: 41992-00668)	
)	
For: "SYSTEM FOR REMOVAL OF)	
INERTS FROM FUEL CELL)	
REACTANTS")	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits this paper to address the Office Action having a mailing date of February 8, 2007. Although Applicant does not believe any extension is necessary or that any fees are due in connection with the filing of this Response, please consider this a petition under 37 CFR 1.136 for an extension, if any, required to maintain the pendency of the present application and charge the required extension fee and other fees, if any, due in connection with this Response to Deposit Account No. 50-1419.

In the February 8, 2007 Office Action, the Examiner has taken the position that the above-identified patent application has claims directed to two distinct inventions, namely Group I (Claims 1-19, 45-48) drawn to an electrical power plant, and Group II (Claims 20-44), drawn to a method of generating electrical power.

Applicant hereby elects to prosecute Group I (Claims 1-19, 45-48) in this patent application. However, Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue Group II (Claims 20-44) in a subsequent divisional/continuation application.

In the February 8, 2007 Office Action, the Examiner also made a Species Election Requirement. Generally, the Examiner contends that the application includes claims directed to six patentably distinct species. More specifically, the Examiner required that if the invention of Group I (Claims 1-19, 45-48) is elected in response to the Restriction Requirement, then election of one of the following species is required: (I-1), Claims 1-18, drawn to an electrical power plant comprising a fuel cell and a first reactant recycle system; (I-2), Claim 19, drawn to an electrical power plant comprising a fuel cell, a first reactant recycle system, a first flowpath, a second flowpath and a third flowpath; (I-3), Claim 45, drawn to an electrical power plant comprising a fuel cell, a first reactant recycle system, a fuel accumulator, a fuel separator and a mechanical pump; and (I-4), Claims 46-48, drawn to an electrical power plant comprising a fuel cell and a first reactant recycle system comprising a first recovery chamber a second recovery chamber.

Applicant hereby elects Species (I-1) Claims 1-18 in this application. However, Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue the other Species identified by the Examiner in a subsequent divisional/continuation application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 7, 2007

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